



# Indiana State Excise Police News Release

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**Release:**

For Immediate Release

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## **Indiana State Excise Police Serve Search Warrants for Counterfeit Merchandise in Gary**

**Gary, Indiana** Indiana State Excise Police officers served search warrants on Monday November 10<sup>th</sup> at two locations in Gary. The search warrants were the result of a two month undercover investigation into the sale of counterfeit DVD's and Compact Discs. The excise police began the investigations after receiving complaints from citizens.

Excise officers served a search warrant at Karimco Gas and Food Mart 3118 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. where they seized over 4,000 counterfeit DVD's and Compact Discs. Officers also seized 110 pairs of counterfeit shoes and 12 counterfeit purses at Karimco Gas and Food Mart.

Officers also served a search warrant at M & M Food and Beauty Supply 631 W. Ridge Road. Excise officers at this location seized over 2,000 counterfeit DVD's and CD's, 30 pairs of counterfeit shoes and seven counterfeit purses.

The street value of the counterfeit DVD's and CD's seized at both locations was estimated in excess of \$110,000.00. The estimated value of the counterfeit shoes and purses has yet to be determined.

During the search warrant service excise officers also encountered three handguns, one SKS rifle and one 12 gauge shotgun at Karimco Gas and Food Mart.

The investigation will continue on both of the locations searched and reports will be filed with the Lake County Prosecutor's Office. Reports will also be filed with the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission since both locations possess certificates to sell tobacco.

Excise officers will continue to investigate all information received into the sale, manufacture and possession of counterfeit goods.